

Minutes
**Labor-Management Advisory Council on
Workers' Compensation**

January 16, 2009

1:15-2:45 pm

Advisory council members present: Lt. Governor John Bohlinger, Jerry Keck, Bill Dahlgren, Don Judge, Jason Miller, Dan Lee, Connie Welsh, Riley Johnson, Bob Worthington

Core team members present: Jerry Keck, Dustin de Yong, Diana Ferriter, Judy Bovington, George Kochman, Anne Wolfinger

Others present: Larry Jones, Liberty Northwest; Nancy Butler, Kevin Braun, Carl Kochman, Montana State Fund; Keith Ouzts, MCA; Keith Allen, IBEW; Chantal VanDaele, Employment Relations Division

- I. Continued Discussion of Department Workers' Compensation Bills
Both HB 119 and HB 138 have passed out of committee. HB 119 is scheduled for second reading on January 20; HB 138 passed third reading on January 16 and was transmitted to the Senate.
- II. Status of Other Workers' Compensation Bills
The LMAC reviewed the list of bills being tracked. SB 84 will be removed from the tracking list and LC 2085 and LC 2200 will be added.
- III. Status of LMAC Bill, LC 1442
Lt. Governor Bohlinger and Jerry Keck reported on their meeting with Representative Himmelberger. Jerry outlined a new funding option for WorkSafeMT which would involve drawing down from the working capital for the workers' compensation system one time only for \$1 million, divided into \$500,000 in FY10 and \$500,000 in FY11. There would be no impact on the assessment. Doing this would necessitate an amendment to HB 2 to increase budget authority, which would be done during the full House appropriations process in April. The LMAC discussed the option and what would need to take place to achieve a successful outcome. Discussion will continue next week. Lt. Governor Bohlinger will check with the Governor regarding his position on this funding mechanism.
- IV. Public Comment
Larry Jones and Mike Marsh addressed the LMAC.
- V. Next Steps

Be prepared to take action on 1/23 re: newest funding option	LMAC members	Jan-23-2009
Check with Governor Schweitzer regarding his position on the new funding options	Lt. Governor Bohlinger	Jan-23-2009